

REMARKS

Prior to this amendment, Claims 1-22 were pending in the application, and these claims are allowed. New Claims 23-36 are added by way of this amendment. Therefore, Claims 1-36 are presently pending in the application.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 23-36 are added to claim additional embodiments of the invention that are described in the specification as originally filed. Hence, no new matter is introduced in the application by way of this amendment.

CONCLUSION

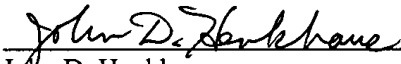
Applicants submit that all of the pending claims (1-36) present patentable subject matter over the references of record, and are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner has questions regarding this case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortages in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 12/10, 2003


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